



GUY GARDNER

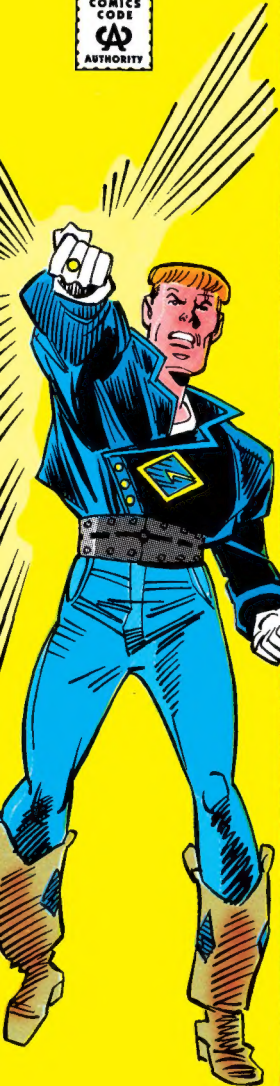
14
NOV 93



Yesterday's Sins 4 of 4

GUY GARDNER

YEAR ONE



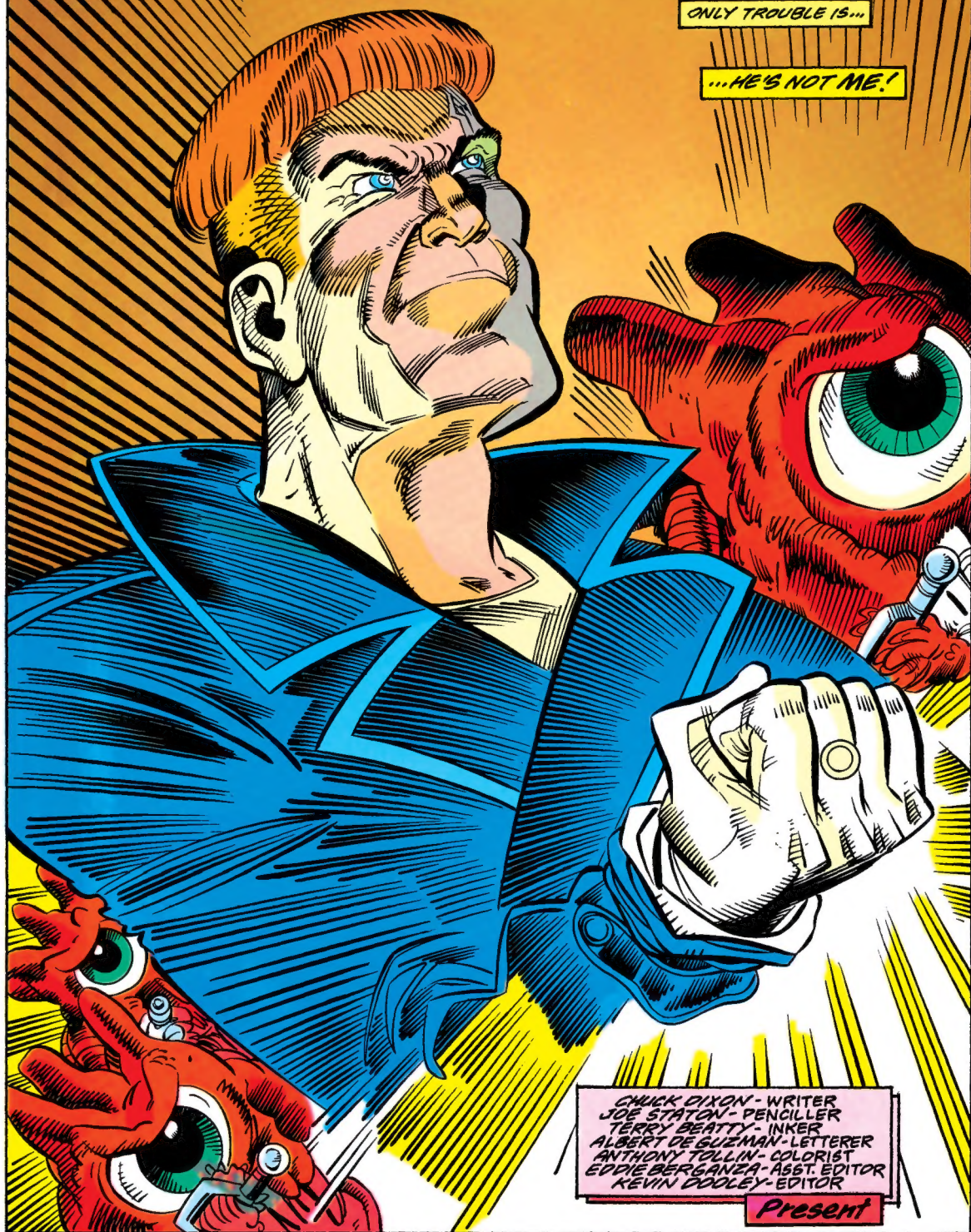
MEAN,
MACHO
AND
GREASED
TO KICK
BUTT.

ARMED WITH A BAD ATTITUDE, A BAD
HAIRCUT AND THE BADDEST POWER
RING IN THE UNIVERSE.

QUITE THE MAN.
QUITE THE SPECIMEN.

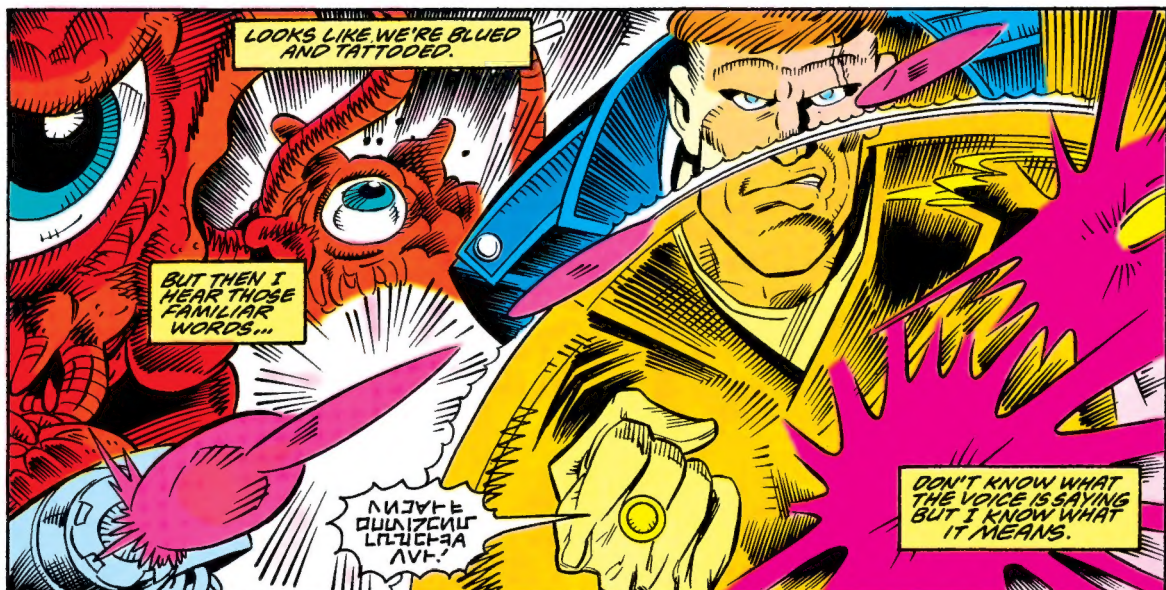
ONLY TROUBLE IS...

...HE'S NOT ME!



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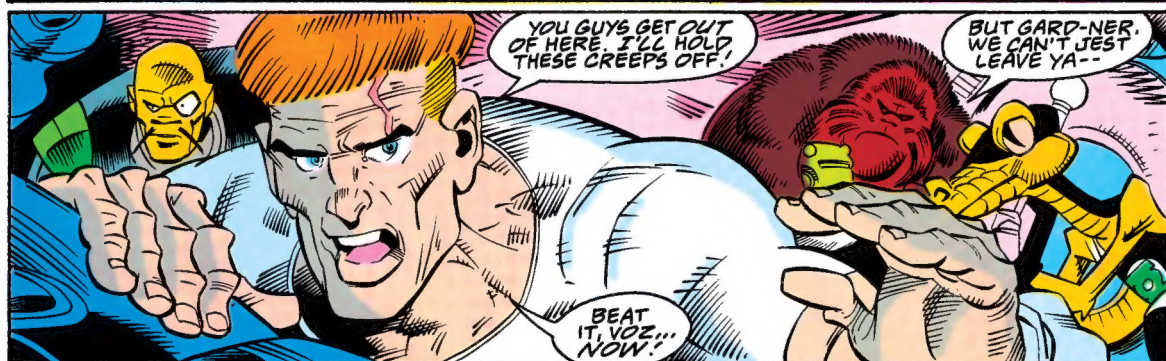


LOOKS LIKE WE'RE BLUE
AND TATTOOED.

BUT THEN I
HEAR THOSE
FAMILIAR
WORDS...

АМЖУ-Е
ОУИЗЕНУГ
ЛН-УГ-АА
АВ-?

DON'T KNOW WHAT
THE VOICE IS SAYING
BUT I KNOW WHAT
IT MEANS.



YOU GUYS GET OUT
OF HERE I'LL HOLD
THESE CREEPS OFF!

BUT GARD-NER,
WE CAN'T JEST
LEAVE YA--

BEAT
IT, VOZ...
NOW!



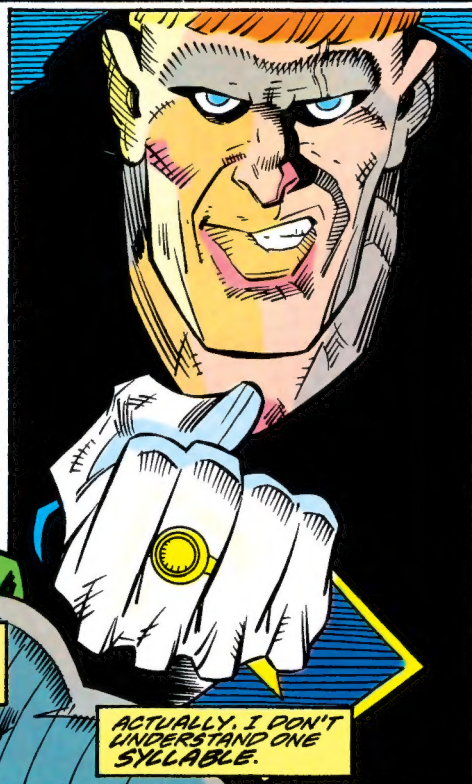
SEE, THE RING ONLY SPEAKS
THE LANGUAGE OF THE GUY
I GOT IT FROM.

A REAL NASTY
WEASEL CALLED
SINESTRO.

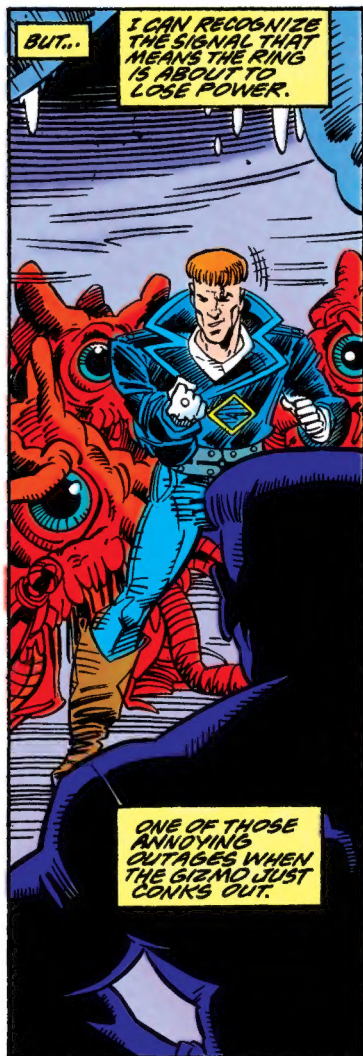
YOU CLOWNS
WANT GUY? YOU
GOT HIM.

TAKE
YOUR
BEST
SHOT.

AND I DON'T
UNDERSTAND A
WHOLE LOT OF
KORUGARIAN.



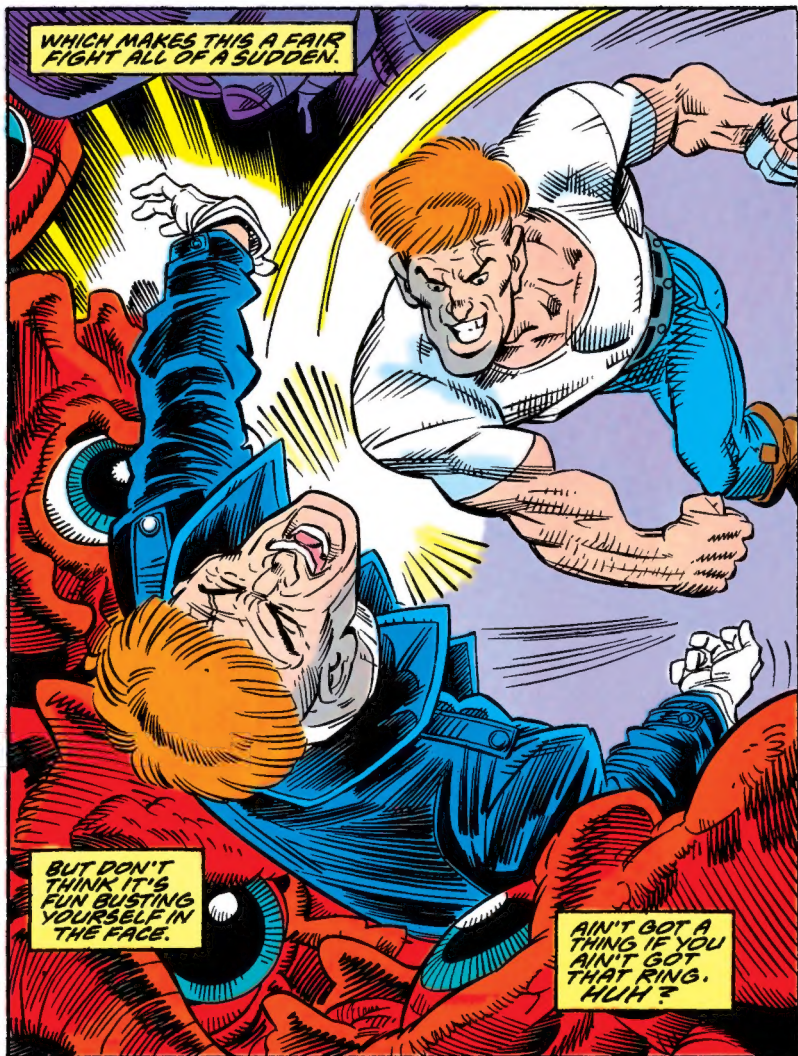
ACTUALLY, I DON'T
UNDERSTAND ONE
SYLLABLE.



BUT...

I CAN RECOGNIZE
THE SIGNAL THAT
MEANS THE RING
IS ABOUT TO
LOSE POWER.

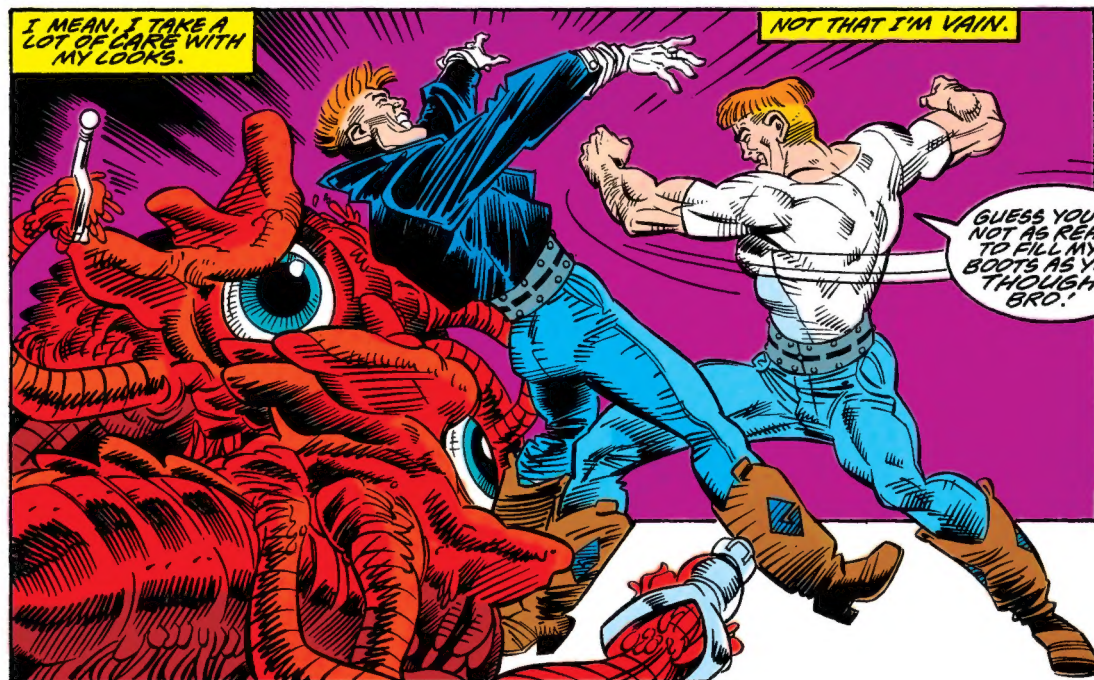
ONE OF THOSE
ANNOYING
OUTAGES WHEN
THE GIZMO JUST
CONKS OUT.



WHICH MAKES THIS A FAIR
FIGHT ALL OF A SUDDEN.

BUT DON'T
THINK IT'S
FUN BUSTING
YOURSELF IN
THE FACE.

AIN'T GOT A
THING IF YOU
AIN'T GOT
THAT RING.
HUH?



I MEAN, I TAKE A
LOT OF CARE WITH
MY LOOKS.

NOT THAT I'M VAIN.

GUESS YOU'RE
NOT AS READY
TO FILL MY
BOOTS AS YOU
THOUGHT.
BRO!

SO I DO A LITTLE
BODYWORK.

IT'S GOTTA
HURT.

YOU GOT
ALL YOUR
STREETSENSE
OUT OF A CAN,
PAL.

HOPE THE DRAAL
GOT A DENTAL
PLAN.

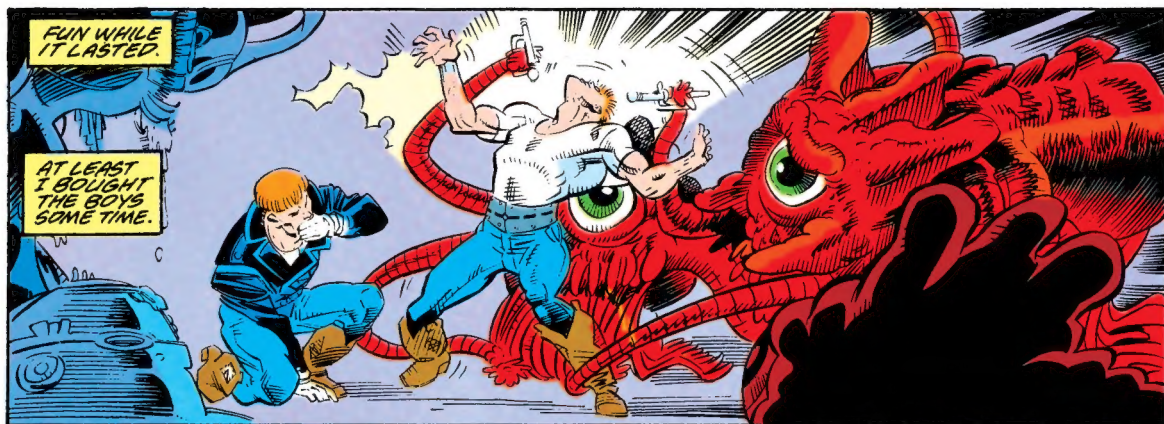
I LEARNED
MINE FIRST-
HAND!

I'M HAVING SUCH
A GOOD TIME I
FORGET TO GRAB
THE RING.

SO THINK
OF THIS AS
LESSON
ONE!

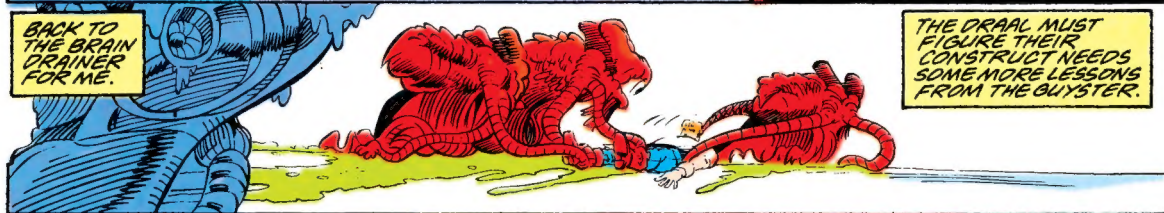
AND
TWO!

AND
THREE!



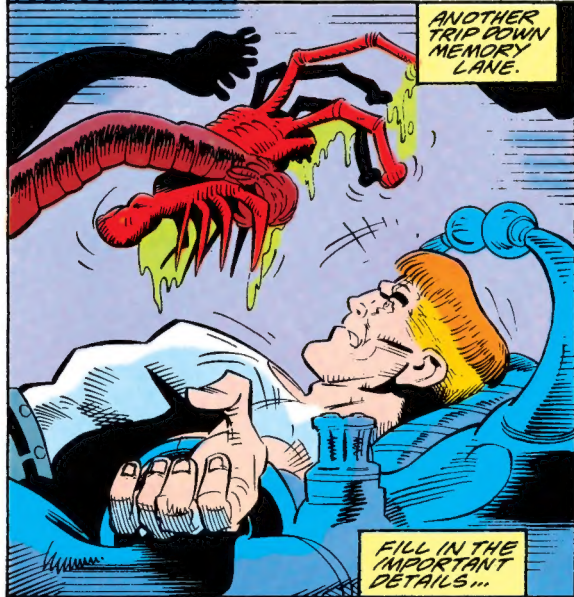
FUN WHILE IT LASTED.

AT LEAST I BOUGHT THE BOYS SOME TIME.



BACK TO THE BRAIN DRAINER FOR ME.

THE DRAAL MUST FIGURE THEIR CONSTRUCT NEEDS SOME MORE LESSONS FROM THE GUYSTER.



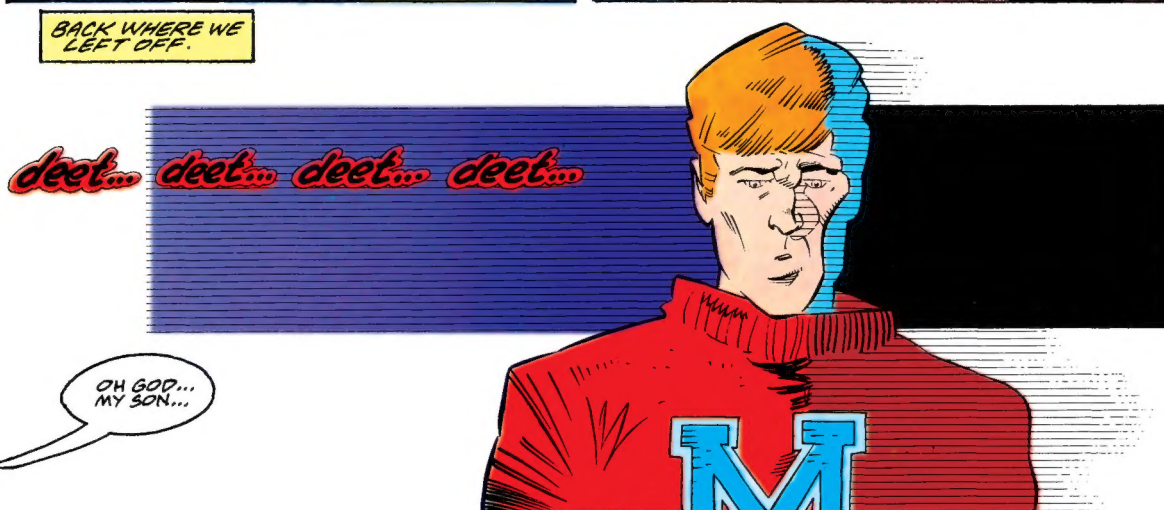
ANOTHER TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE.

FILL IN THE IMPORTANT DETAILS...



...LIKE HOW I GOT A RING WITH NO OWNERS' MANUAL.

ARRRRRR!



BACK WHERE WE LEFT OFF.

deet... deet... deet... deet...

OH GOD... MY SON...

BACK TO THE NIGHT
MY BROTHER MACE
WAS SHOT.

BACK TO A LITTLE
ROOM AT BALTIMORE
MERCY.

BACK TO THE SOUND
I NEVER THOUGHT
I'D HEAR.





DOCTOR...
IS MY
BROTHER...?

FIVE SHOTS FROM A LARGE
CALIBER HANDGUN. I'D SAY HE'S
LUCKY TO BE ALIVE.

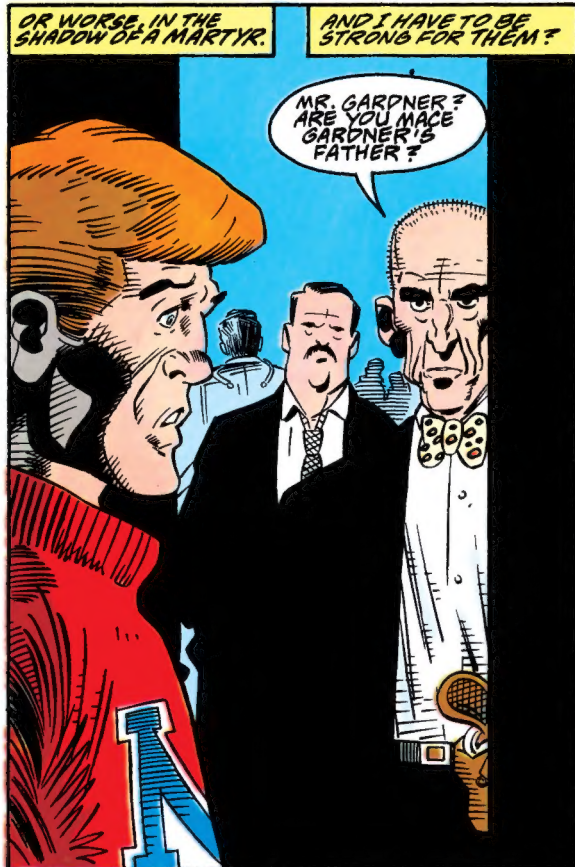
IF HE COMES OUT OF THE
COMA WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS
HE'S GOT A FIGHTING CHANCE.
THAT'S THE HARD FACTS, SON.



IT'S TOUGH NEWS BUT YOU
CAN TAKE IT.

BE STRONG FOR THEM, SON.
THEIRS IS THE HARDEST
LOSS.

AT THE
BEST I'D
BE IN THE
SHADOW
OF A HERO.



OR WORSE, IN THE
SHADOW OF A MARTYR.

AND I HAVE TO BE
STRONG FOR THEM?

MR. GARDNER?
ARE YOU MACE
GARDNER'S
FATHER?



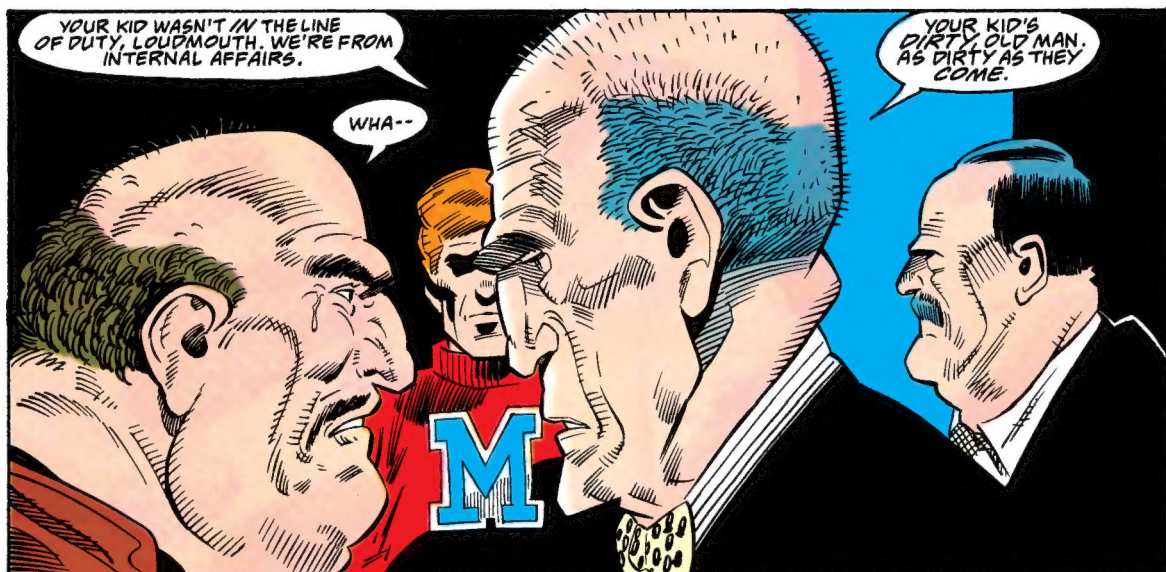
THAT'S WHAT I
THINK ANYWAY.

WE'RE FROM...

I KNOW
WHERE
YOU'RE
FROM--

--THE POLICE
DEPARTMENT. WHERE
WERE YOU COPS WHEN
MY SON WAS RISKIN'
HIS LIFE INNA LINA
DUTY?

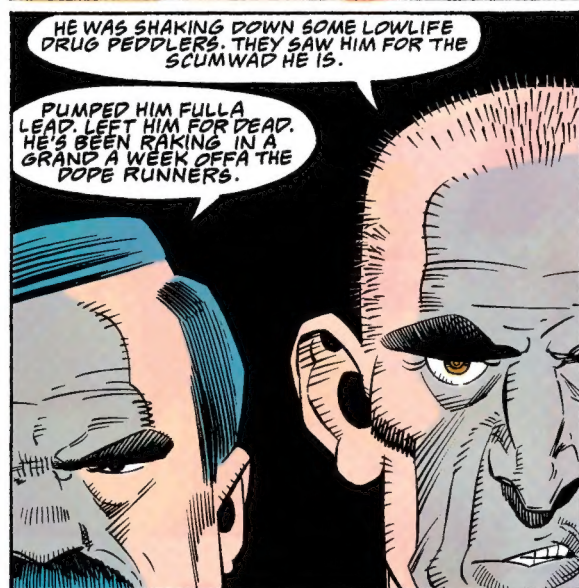
OUT THERE
ALL ALONE...



YOUR KID WASN'T IN THE LINE OF DUTY, LOUDMOUTH. WE'RE FROM INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

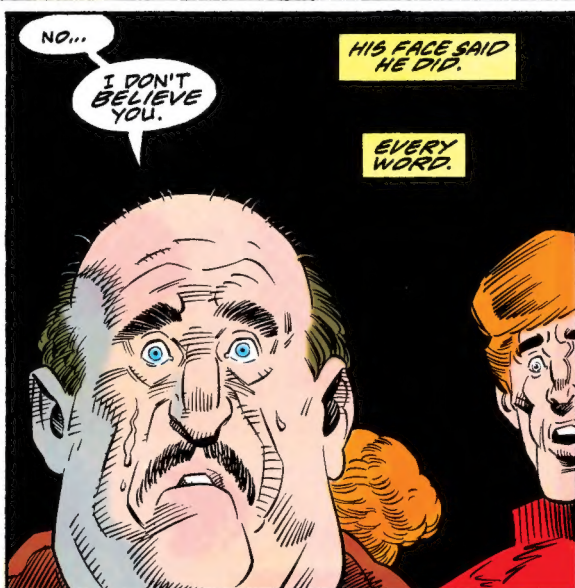
WHA--

YOUR KID'S DIRTY, OLD MAN. AS DIRTY AS THEY COME.



HE WAS SHAKING DOWN SOME LOWLIFE DRUG PEDDLERS. THEY SAW HIM FOR THE SCUMWAD HE IS.

PUMPED HIM FULLA LEAD. LEFT HIM FOR DEAD. HE'S BEEN RAKING IN A GRAND A WEEK OFFA THE DOPE RUNNERS.

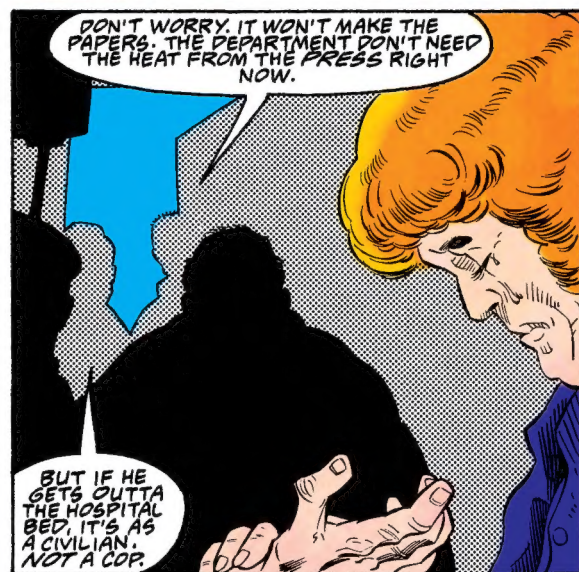


NO...

I DON'T BELIEVE YOU.

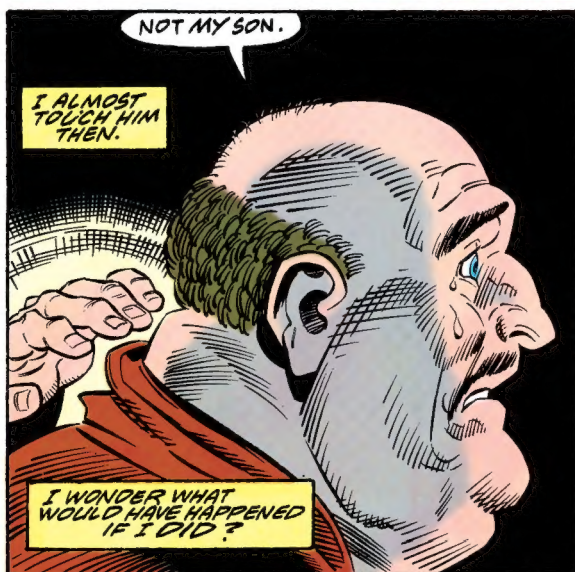
HIS FACE SAID HE DID.

EVERY WORD.



DON'T WORRY. IT WON'T MAKE THE PAPERS. THE DEPARTMENT DON'T NEED THE HEAT FROM THE PRESS RIGHT NOW.

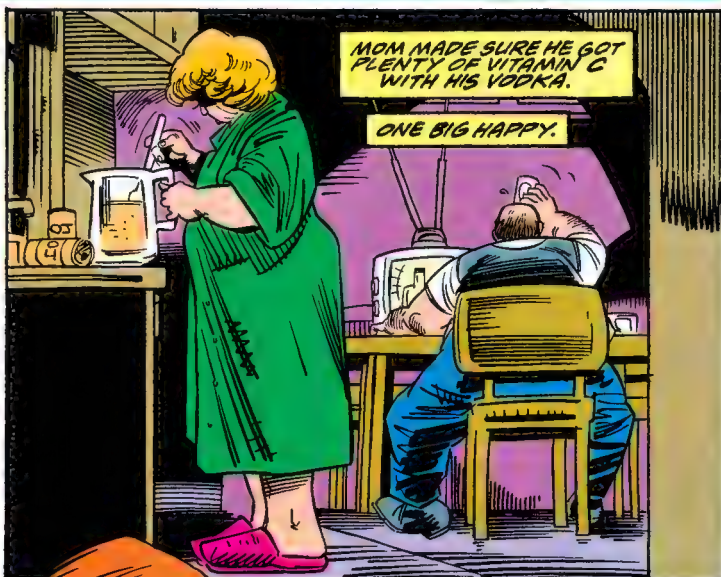
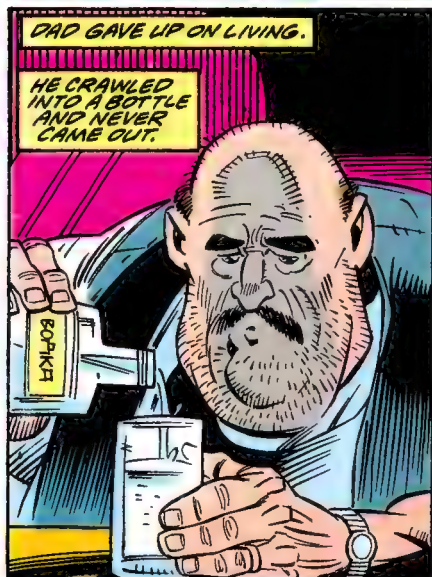
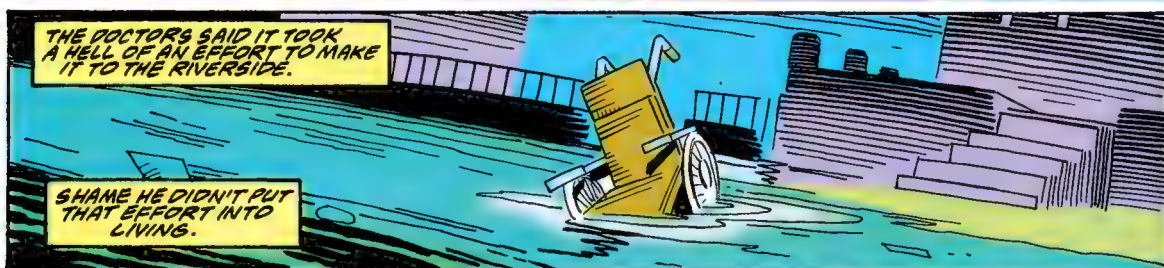
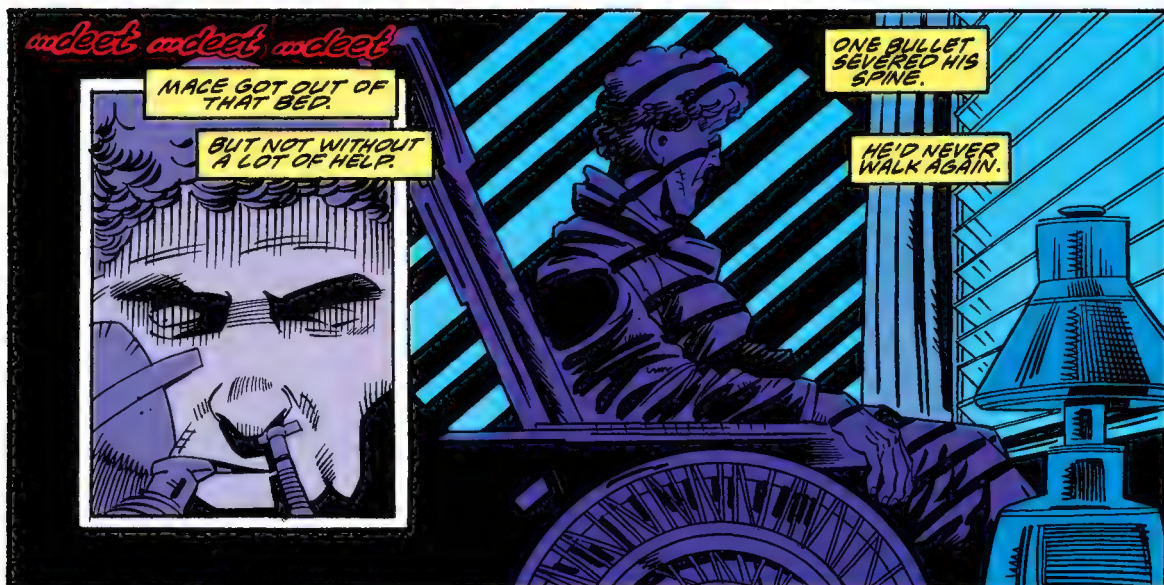
BUT IF HE GETS OUTTA THE HOSPITAL BED, IT'S AS A CIVILIAN. NOT A COP.



NOT MY SON.

I ALMOST TOUCH HIM THEN.

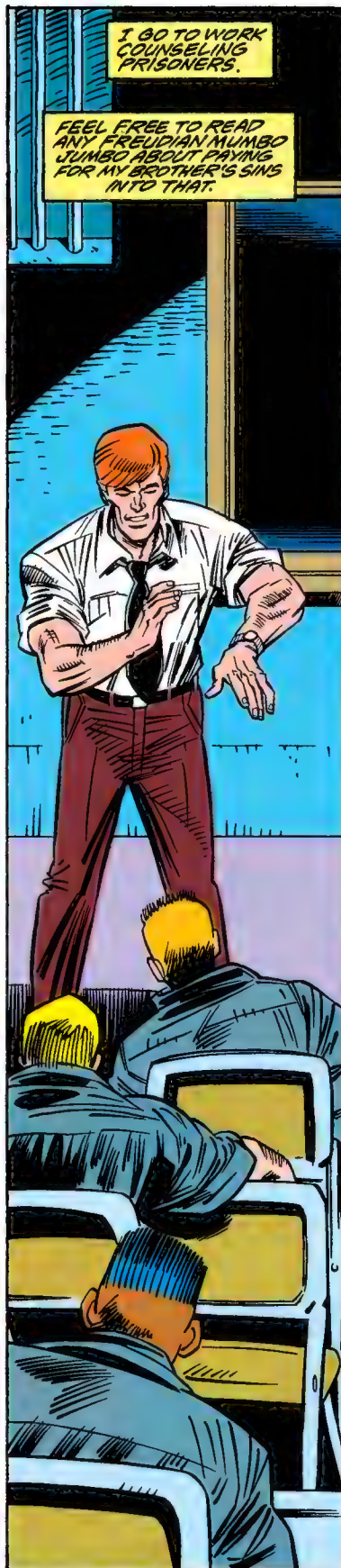
I WONDER WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF I DID?





I FINISH COLLEGE WITH DEGREES IN PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATION.

ME, A LIBERAL ARTS MAJOR. GO FIGURE.



I GO TO WORK COUNSELING PRISONERS.

FEEL FREE TO READ ANY FREUDIAN MUMBO JUMBO ABOUT PAYING FOR MY BROTHER'S SINS INTO THAT.



LATER I'M TEACHING SPORTS TO SPECIAL EDUCATION KIDS.

KIDS THAT HAVE MORE HEART THAN I CAN EVER HOPE TO.

LIFE'S GOING GREAT.



ISN'T THAT ALWAYS THE TIME FATE GIVES YOU A KICK IN THE PANTS?

THIS TIME IT'S IN THE FORM OF AN EIGHT POINTER ON THE RICHTER SCALE.

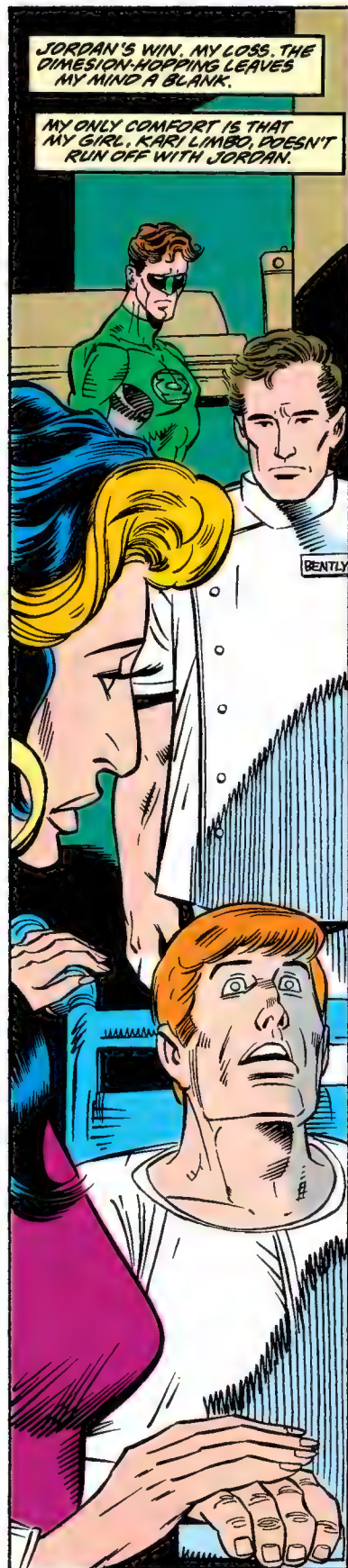


THAT'S WHEN HAL JORDAN ENTERS THE PICTURE.

I WAS THE SECOND CHOICE TO BE EARTH'S GREEN LANTERN. NOW, I'M OUTTA THE RUNNING.

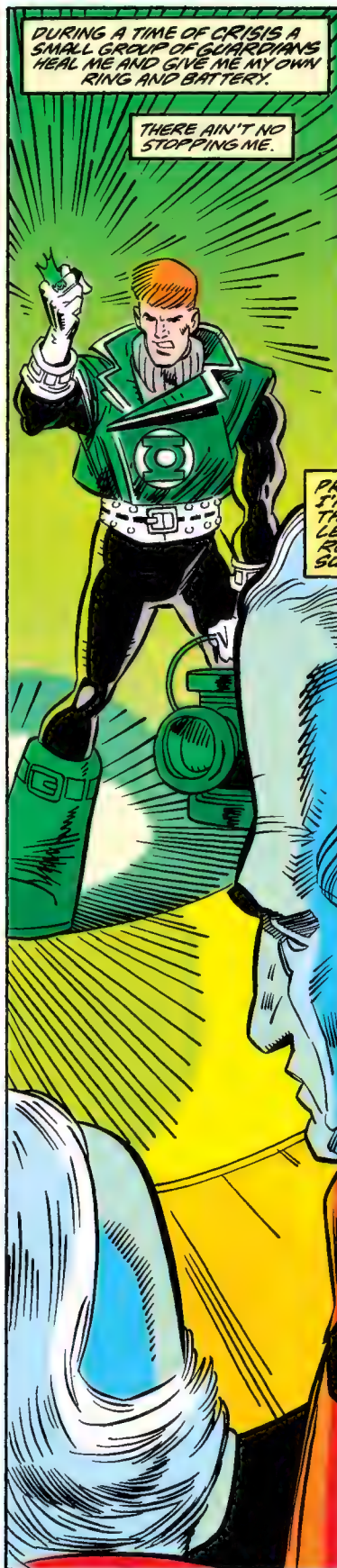


LATER, WHEN HE DID ASK ME TO FILL IN FOR HIM, A FAULTY POWER BATTERY LANDS ME INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION, WHERE SINISTRO--HE'S THE WEASEL I TOLD YOU ABOUT EARLIER--USES ME TO GET AT JORDAN.



JORDAN'S WIN. MY LOSS. THE DIMENSION-HOPPING LEAVES MY MIND A BLANK.

MY ONLY COMFORT IS THAT MY GIRL, KARI LIMBO, DOESN'T RUN OFF WITH JORDAN.



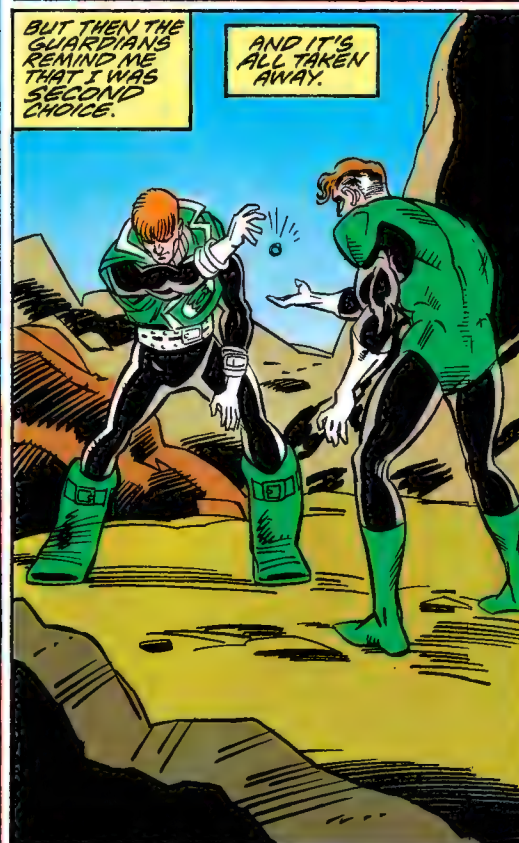
DURING A TIME OF CRISIS A SMALL GROUP OF GUARDIANS HEAL ME AND GIVE ME MY OWN RING AND BATTERY.

THERE AIN'T NO STOPPING ME.

PRETTY SOON I'M PART OF THE JUSTICE LEAGUE. A REAL LIVE SUPERHERO.

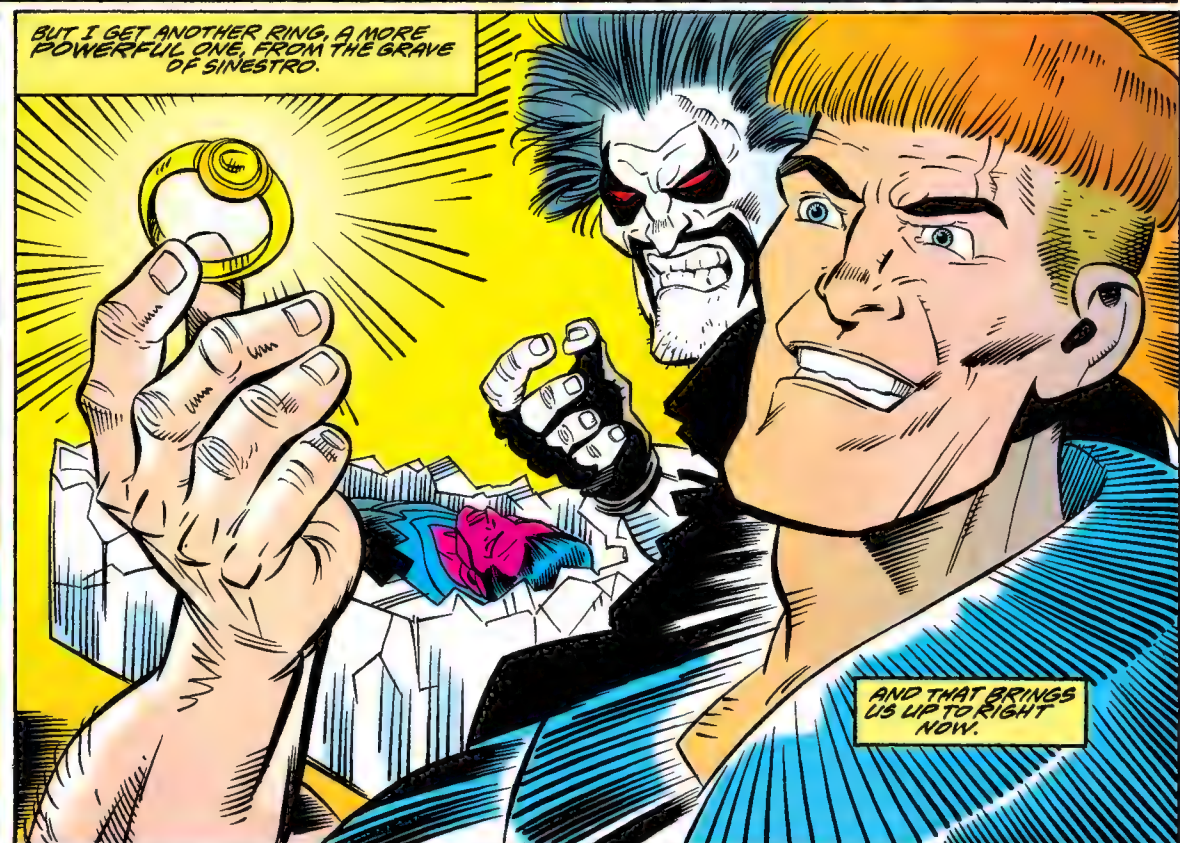


I'VE GOT THE GIRL OF MY DREAMS AND THE WORLD BY THE SHORT HAIRS.



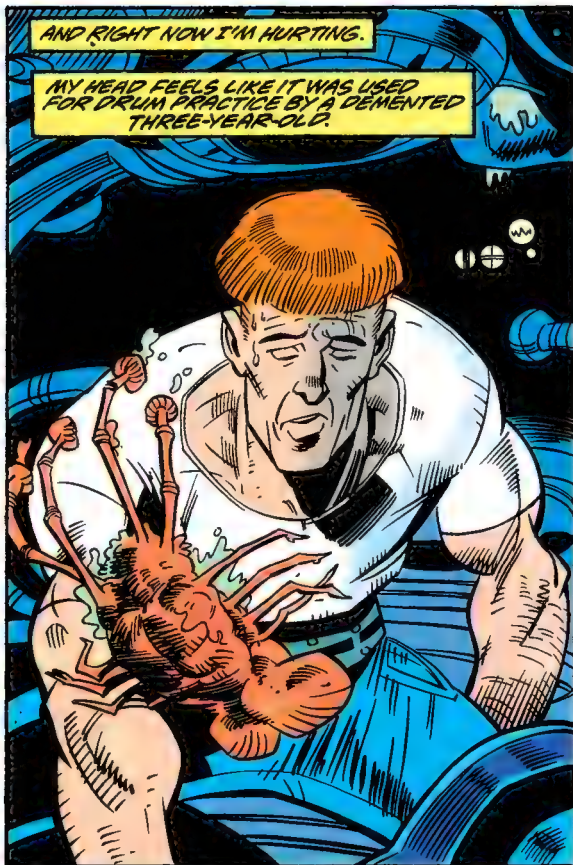
BUT THEN THE GUARDIANS REMIND ME THAT I WAS SECOND CHOICE.

AND IT'S ALL TAKEN AWAY.



BUT I GET ANOTHER RING, A MORE POWERFUL ONE, FROM THE GRAVE OF SINESTRO.

AND THAT BRINGS US UP TO RIGHT NOW.



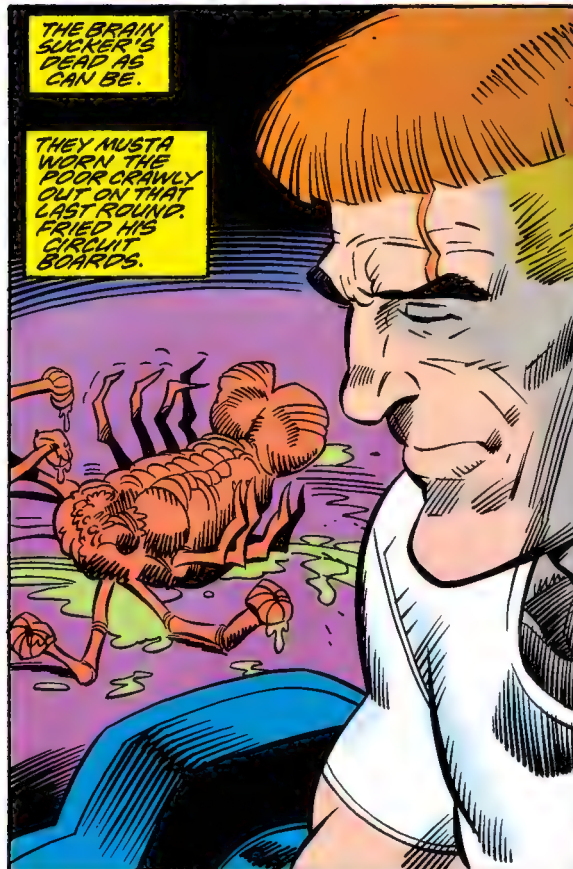
AND RIGHT NOW I'M HURTING.

MY HEAD FEELS LIKE IT WAS USED FOR DRUM PRACTICE BY A DEMENTED THREE-YEAR-OLD.



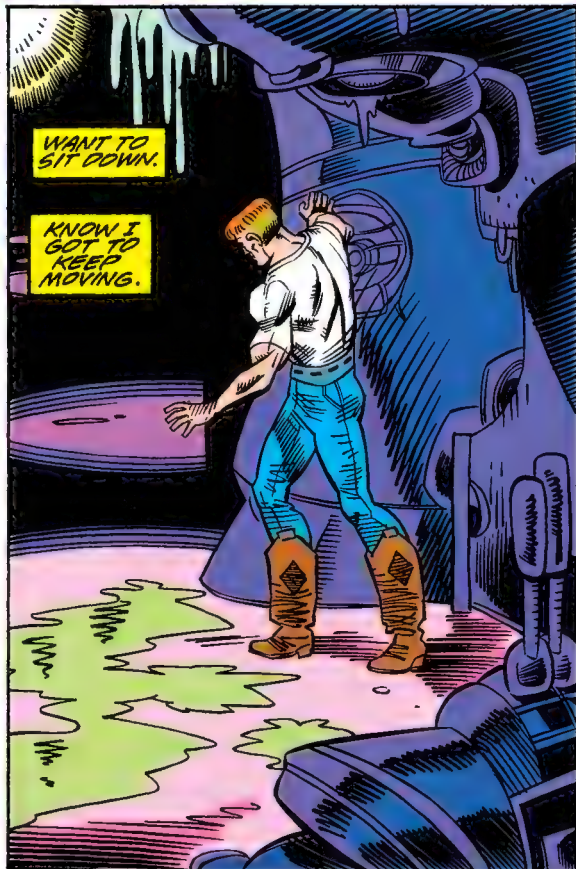
I'M ALONE.

NOT A BUTT-UGLY IN SIGHT. MY DOUBLE'S MISSING TOO.



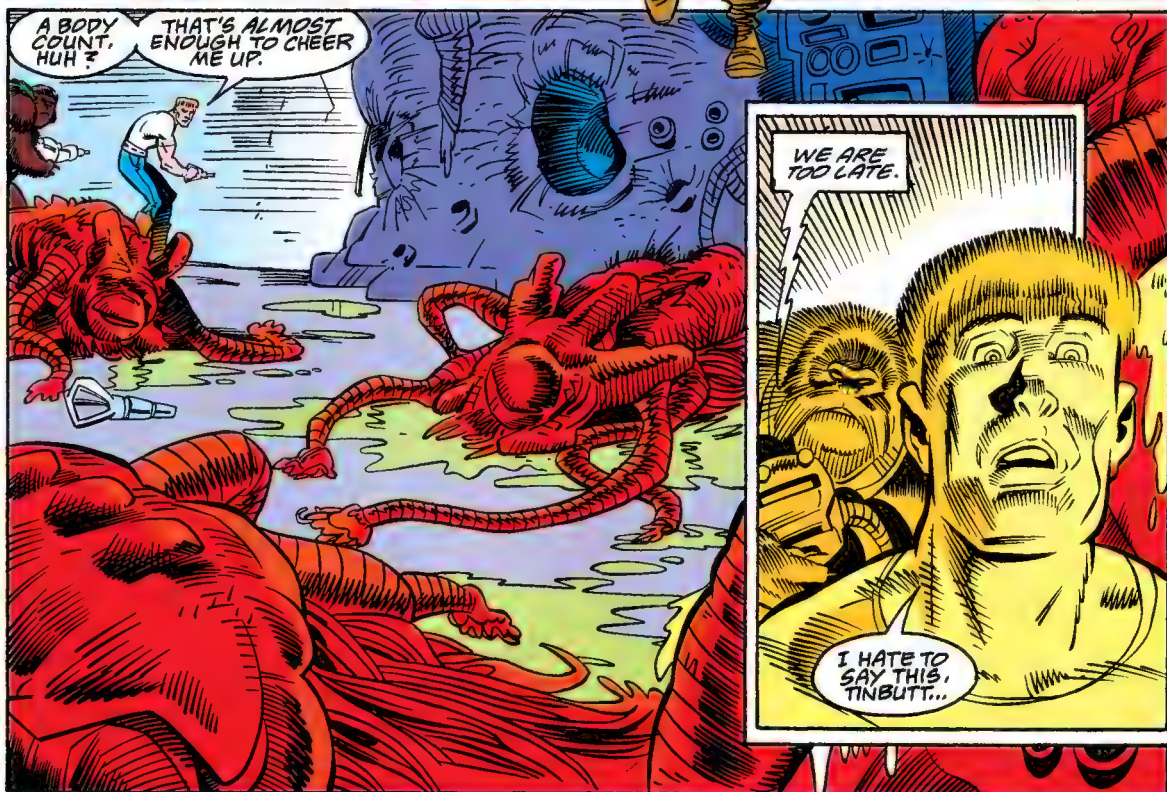
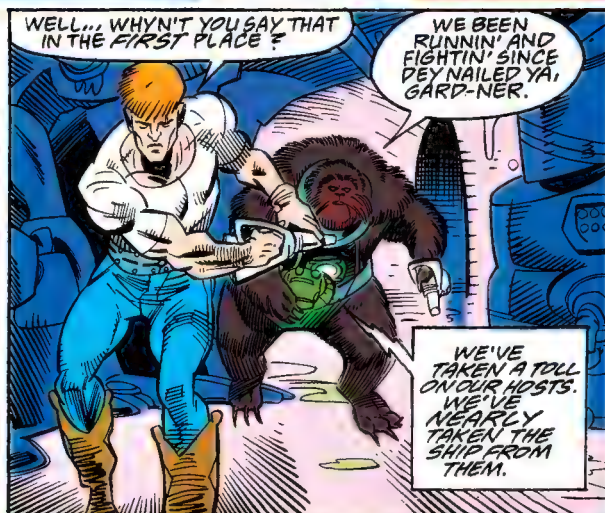
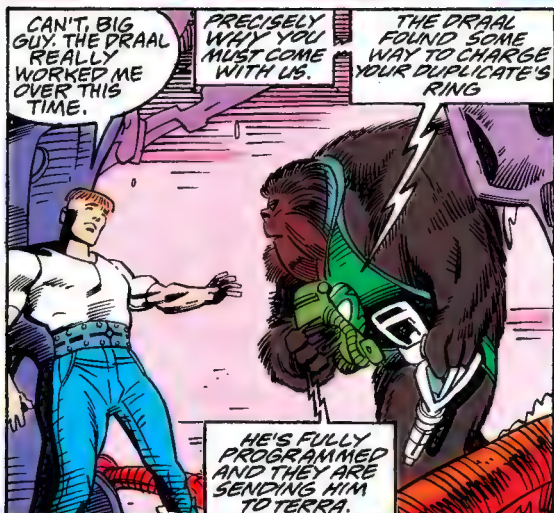
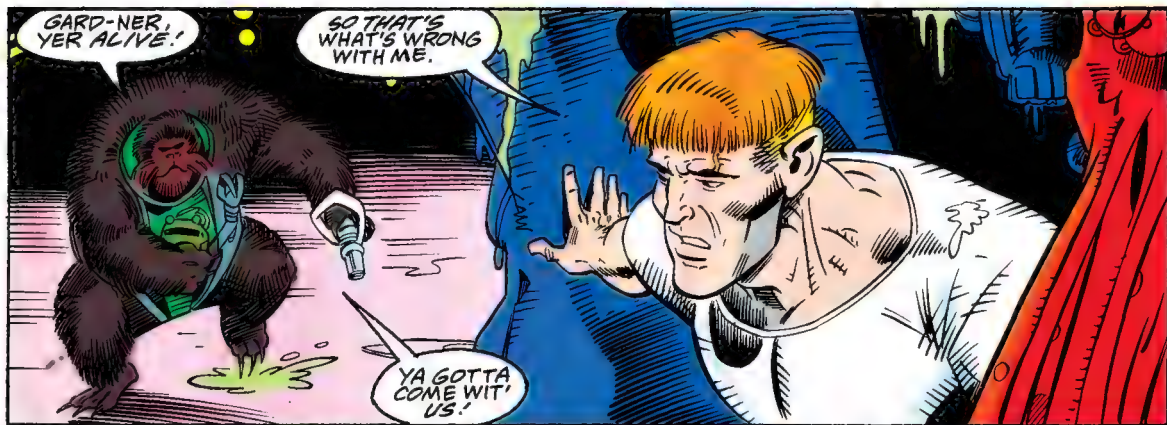
THE BRAIN SUCKER'S DEAD AS CAN BE.

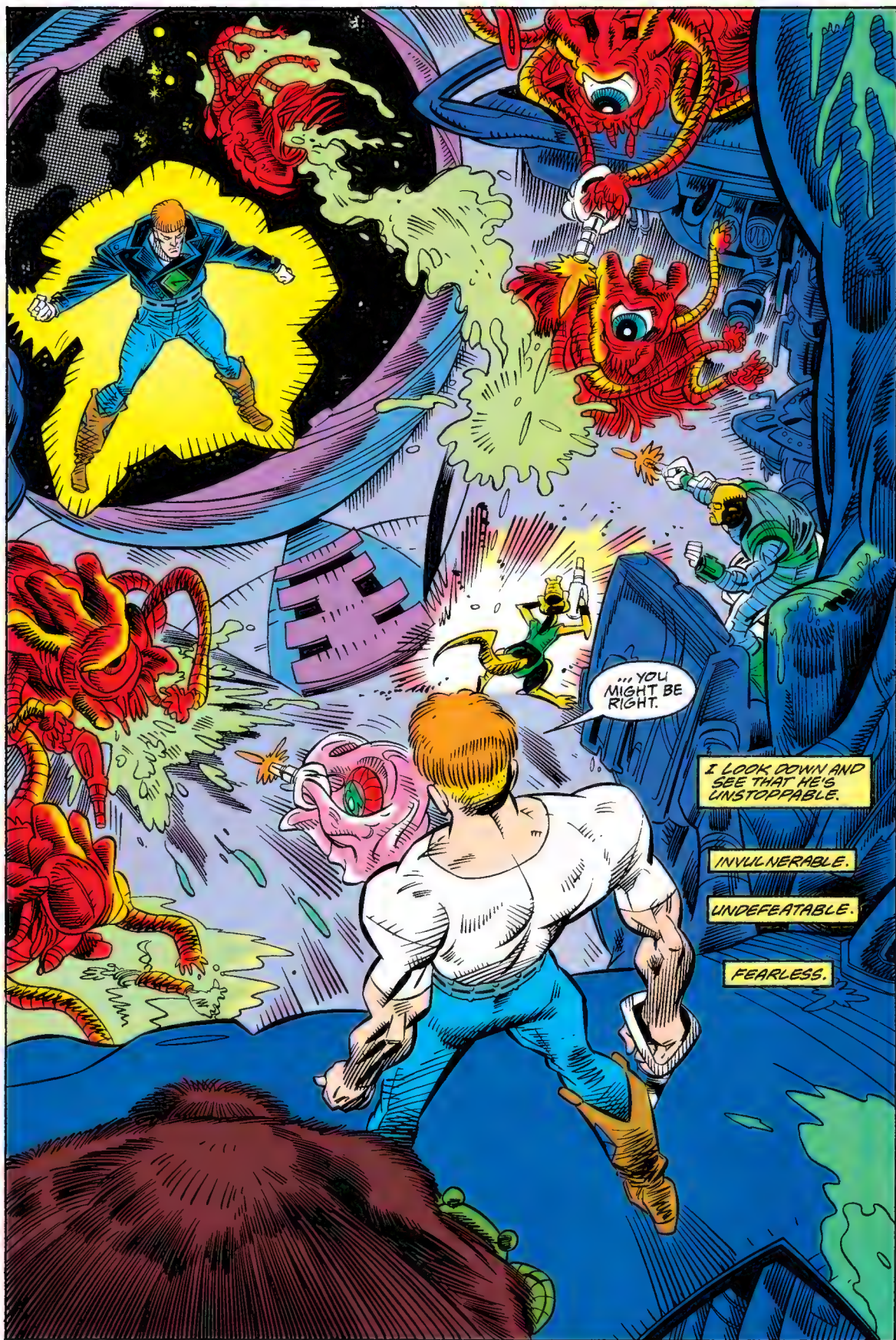
THEY MUSTA WORN THE POOR CRAWLY OUT ON THAT LAST ROUND. FRIED HIS CIRCUIT BOARDS.

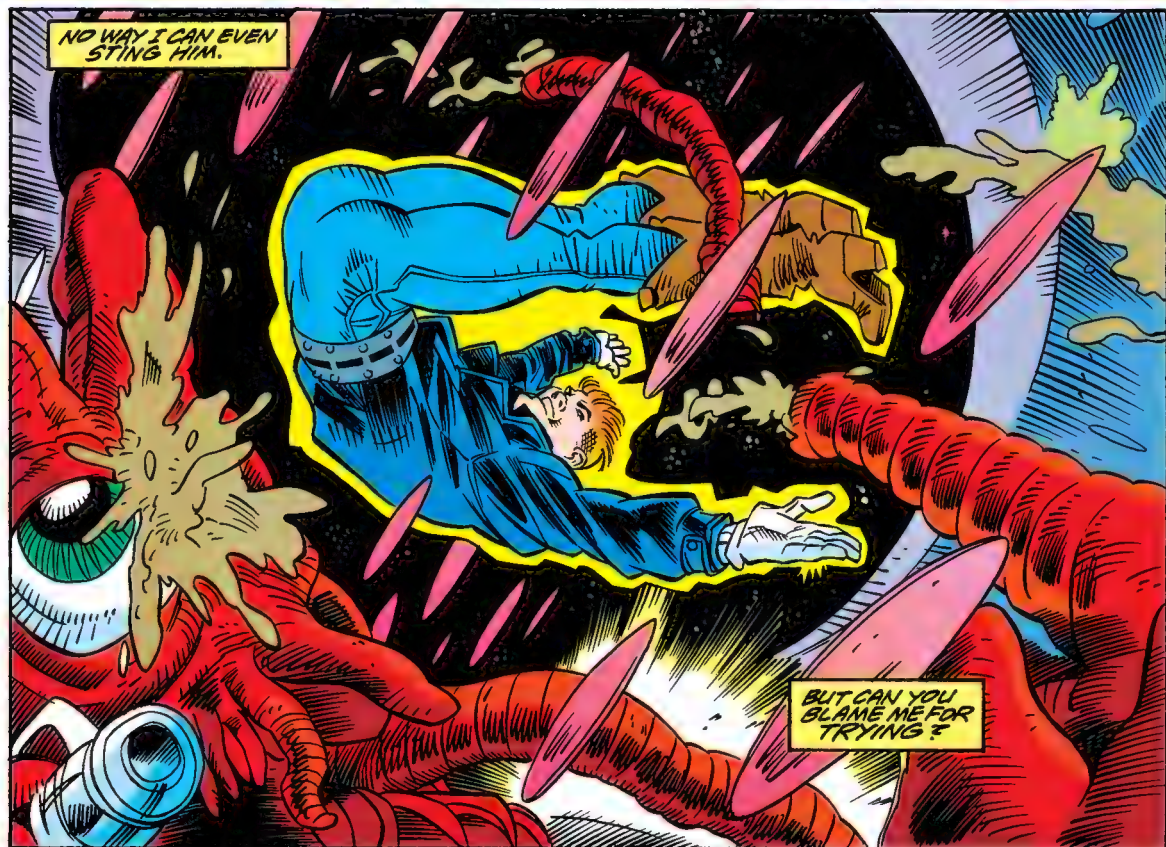
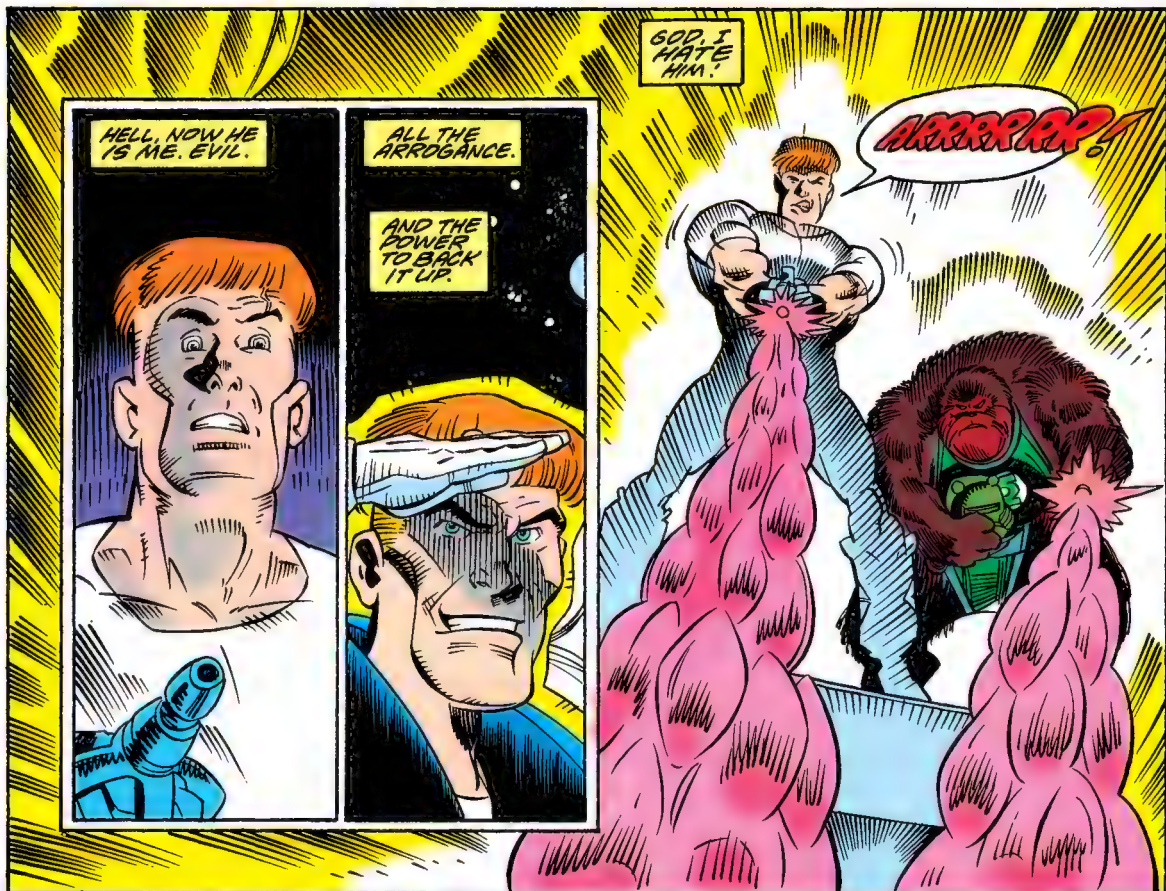


WANT TO SIT DOWN.

KNOW I GOT TO KEEP MOVING.









A GUY GARDNER
WITH NO SCRIPLES.

NO MORALS.

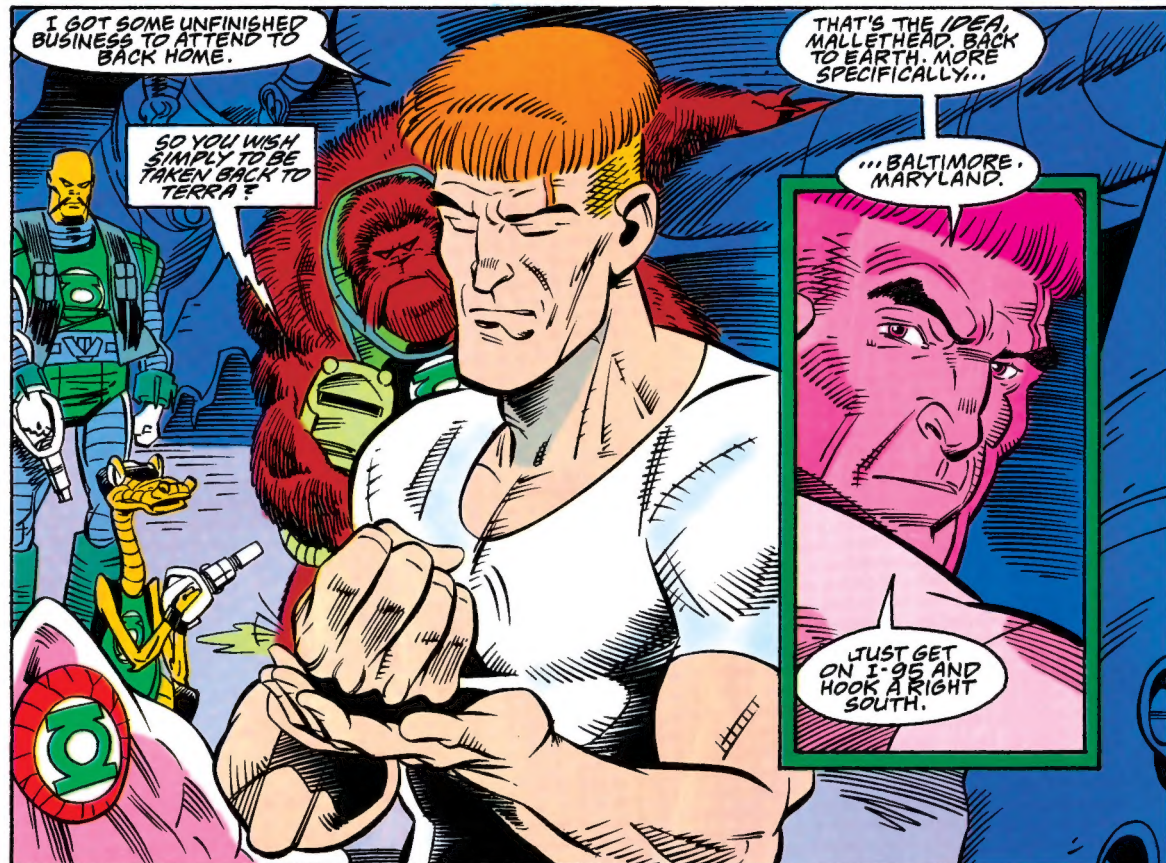
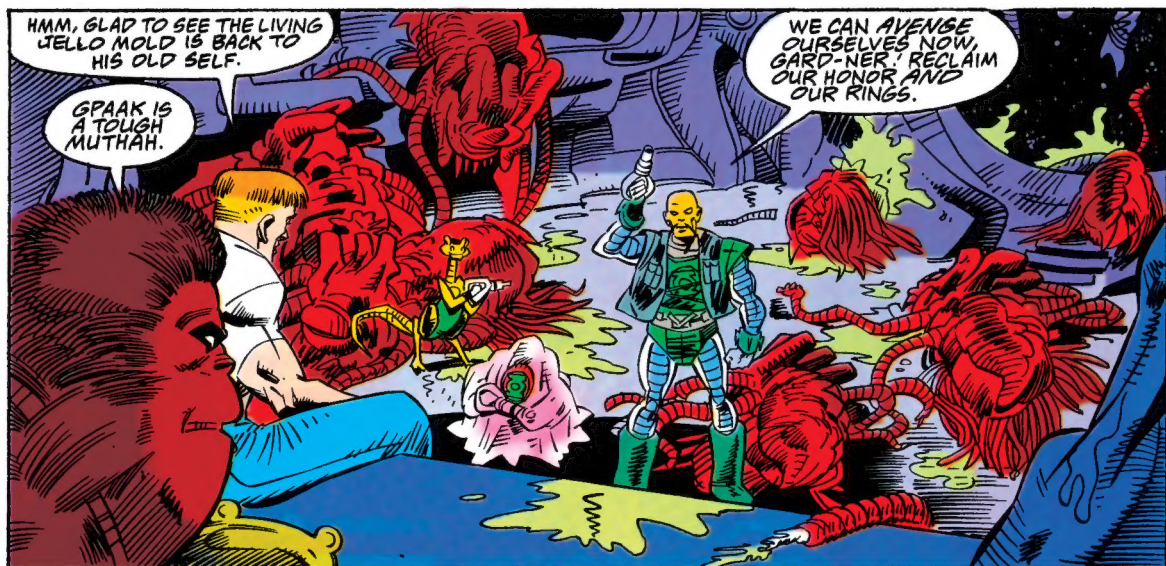
NOTHING TO STAND BETWEEN
HIM AND WHATEVER HE WANTS.

EARTH
DOESN'T
STAND A
CHANCE.

YOU
DID IT,
GARDNER!

YOU
KEELED
ZEE LAST
OF ZEE
DRAAL! WE
COMMAND
ZER
SHEEP
NOW!

THAT'S
JUST
PEACHY,
BOYS.



THE BOYS WORK OVER THE PROGRAMS AND FIGURE OUT HOW TO MAKE THIS BUCKET OF BOLTS GET UP TO SIXTY.

RRU-9-2 FIGURES IT'LL TAKE US QUITE A WHILE TO GET TO EARTH.

STEELGUTS HAS BEEN REAL NICE SINCE WE REASSEMBLED HIM.

HE EVEN GOT THE AIR CONDITIONING WORKING.

BUT STILL I'M SWEATING. TIL I GET TO EARTH.

HOW TO BEAT MY NASTY TWIN AND SAVE THE PLANET.

WITH NO POWERS BUT MY WITS.

BUT THAT'S THE EASY PART.

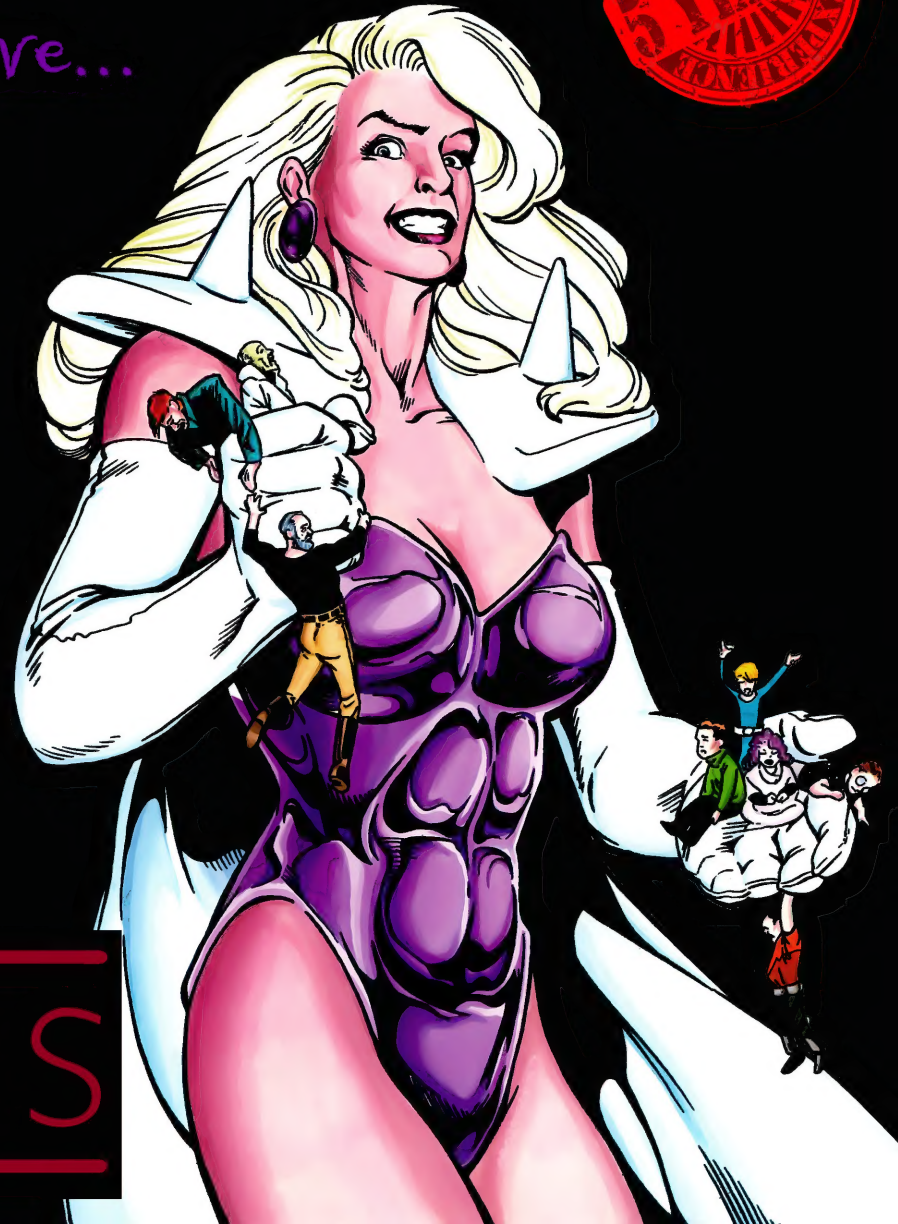
THE HARD PART IS WONDERING WHAT I'M GONNA SAY WHEN I SEE MY OLD MAN.

WHO KNOWS WHAT THE BAD GUY'LL DO IN THE MEANTIME.*

*SEE JLA #83 FOR ONE THING IN PARTICULAR. --KD

NEXT:
GLIY VS.
The JLA!

From Baaldur, with love...



GLORITH

NOVUS